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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 1096-149

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Teruaki Sakuma et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 1714
	)	
Application No.: 10/517,833	)	Examiner: Peter A. Szekely
	)	
Filed: December 15, 2004	)	
	)	
For: Polyphenylene Ether Resin	)	Confirmation No.: 8808
Composition	)	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE**

In response to the Office Action dated May 19, 2006, Applicants appreciate the withdrawal of all previous grounds of rejection of claims 1-11 as set forth in the Office Action of September 20, 2005 both under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a).

Now the Examiner has rejected claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over JP'199 in view of JP'173, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,788,277 to Ibe et al., hereafter Ibe.

Applicants' invention as set forth in claim 1 relates to a resin composition comprising a polyphenylene ether (PPE) and a flame retardant, wherein the polyphenylene ether is obtained by polymerizing a monomer comprising 100 parts by weight of 2,6-dimethylphenol and from 1.0-7.5 parts by weight of ortho cresol in the presence of a catalyst and an oxygen-containing gas.